



Legislative Changes FY 06

- **Section 502.** Extends to 31 Dec 2008 the temporary authority to reduce the minimum length of commissioned service required for voluntary retirement as an officer to 8 years.
- **Section 505.** Requires Officers to submit communications to promotion boards to arrive NLT the day before the board convenes.
- **Section 539.** Allows up to \$2,000 Montgomery GI Bill Benefits for Licensing or Certification Tests for mobilized Reserve members.



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- **Section 540.** Educational assistance may be provided to a member of the Selected Reserve who incurs a break in service in the Selected Reserve of not more than 90 days if the member continues to serve in the Ready Reserve during and after the break in service.
- **Section 576.** Establishes 11 Sep 01 as the beginning date for eligibility for the Operation Enduring Freedom Campaign Medal.
- **Section 607.** Prohibits Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) from charging a member entitled to basic allowance for subsistence for meals provided to the member by the MTF from 1 Oct 2005 through 31 Dec 2006. The member must be undergoing medical treatment for injuries incurred or aggravated on AD in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom or any other operation designated as a combat operation or combat zone.



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- **Section 610.** Establishes a rate for basic allowance for housing for reserve members equal to the rate in effect for similarly situated members of a regular component. Applies to those called or ordered to AD for a period of more than 30 days or to those called or ordered to AD for a period of 30 days or less in support of a contingency operation.
- **Section 611.** Increases to 365 days the amount of time dependents of military members who die on AD may continue to occupy military family housing or receive basic allowance for housing.
- **Section 613.** Provides an allowance for SGLI premiums for the first \$150,000 or less of coverage for members serving in the theater of operations for Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.



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- **Section 614.** Provides income replacement equal to the differential between the monthly civilian income and the total monthly military compensation for involuntarily mobilized reserve members. Authorized amounts start at \$50 each month to a maximum of \$3000. Payments are effective after 18 months of AD, the member completes 24 months on AD during the previous 60 months or the member is involuntarily mobilized for service on AD for a period of 180 days or more within six months or less following the member's separation from a previous period of involuntary AD for a period of 180 days or more. Payments terminate 31 Dec 2008.
- **Section 626.** Authorizes dental officers entitled to variable special pay to receive additional special pay for any 12-month period they are not undergoing dental internship or initial residency training. They will receive \$4,000 per year if they have less than three years of creditable service; \$6,000 per year, if they have at least three but less than 10 years of creditable service; and \$15,000 per year, if they have 10 or more years of creditable service.



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- **Section 627.** Increases to \$750 the amount paid to a member who is performing duty in the United States or outside the United States that has been designated by the Secretary of Defense as hardship duty.
- **Section 628.** Authorizes payment of assignment incentive pay for members serving in designated areas to be made monthly, in a lump sum or in installments. The maximum monthly rate is \$3,000. The lump sum and installment payments will not exceed the monthly rate for the time period of the written agreement.
- **Section 630.** Authorizes a reenlistment bonus for members with more than 16 but with less than 20 years of total military service. Member must reenlist or voluntarily extend for a period of three years or for a period of six years in a designated military skill or unit in the Selected Reserve.



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- **Section 631.** Authorizes payment of an affiliation or accession bonus not to exceed \$20,000 until 31 Dec 2006. An **affiliation** bonus may be paid to an enlisted member who completed less than 20 years of military service, is discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions and agrees to serve in the Selected Reserve for three years or more in a designated skill, unit or pay grade. An **accession** bonus may be paid to a person who has not previously served in the armed forces and agrees to serve in the Selected Reserve for three years or more.
- **Section 639.** Changes Foreign Language Proficiency Pay from a monthly “special pay” to a bonus for eligible Reserve and Regular Component members. The bonus will not exceed \$12,000 per one-year certification period and may be paid in lump sum at the beginning of the certification period or in installments during the certification period.
- **Section 640.** Authorizes a retention bonus not to exceed \$100,000 for a member serving in an active status in a reserve component. Member must remain in an active status for at least one year and must be in a critical military skill or assigned to a high priority unit.



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- **Section 641.** Authorizes an incentive bonus up to \$2500 until 31 Dec 2006 for regular or reserve component members transferring to another armed force. The member must agree to serve three years and there must be a shortage of trained and qualified personnel in the gaining armed force.
- **Section 642.** Authorizes monthly special pay of \$430 to a member who in the line of duty incurs a wound, injury or illness in a combat operation or combat zone designated by the Secretary and is evacuated from the theater for medical treatment.
- **Section 651.** Authorizes payment or reimbursement of TDY lodging expenses incurred during an authorized absence. Applies to a member TDY for a period of more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation or as designated by the Secretary.



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- **Section 655.** Makes permanent the authority to provide travel and transportation allowances for family members to visit hospitalized members injured in a combat operation or combat zone.
- **Section 664.** Increases amounts of death gratuity to \$100,000 for survivors of members who die on AD for military operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Global War on Terrorism retroactive to 7 Oct 01.
- **Section 684.** For Chaplains in the Selected Reserve who hold or are fully qualified for an appointment as a Chaplain, the Secretary may repay an education loan if the Chaplain signs a written agreement to serve not less than three years in the Selected Reserve. The amount of repayment may not exceed \$20,000 for each three year agreement.



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- **Section 688.** Requires the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to notify home owning service members and dependents of mortgage and foreclosure rights under the Service Member's Civil Relief Act.
- **Section 701.** Extends the eligibility period to apply for extended coverage under TRICARE to 90 days after release from AD. Applies to members who complete service on AD for a period of more than 30 days on or after 11 Sep 2001. Provides coverage for a member of the IRR who is mobilized and cannot find a position in the Selected Reserve if the member finds a position in the Selected Reserve within one year from release. Continues coverage for six months on members of the immediate family of a member who dies and is covered under TRICARE Standard.



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- **Section 702.** Expands eligibility for TRICARE Standard (self and/or family) to those serving in the Selected Reserve who are unemployed and ineligible for unemployment compensation or not eligible for coverage under an employer-sponsored plan (or self employed). The premium will be between 50 to 85 percent of the cost. Open enrollment periods will be provided annually and the member can enroll, change or cancel TRICARE Standard.
- **Section 715.** Increases the period of continued TRICARE Prime coverage for dependents of members of the Uniformed Services who die while serving on AD for a period of more than 30 days. Coverage is for three years, begins on the date of the member's death and is retroactive to 7 Oct 2001.



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- **Section 743.** Allows Medical and dental care in any Military Treatment Facility for officers after commissioning when orders have been published but the member has not entered AD. Authority for this section is retroactive to 24 Nov 03.